

REMARKS

This is intended as a revision to the claim amendments filed on October 20, 2004 in response to the Office Action dated July 20, 2004. These amendments are filed to clarify the invention. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for the following reasons in addition to the reasons discussed in the response to the Office Action filed on October 20, 2004.

Claims 8-11, 13, 15, 17-19, 47, and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent No. JP2-121347 (*Okayama*), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,677,594 (*Young*), or alternatively, over *Young* in view of *Okayama*. *Okayama* and *Young*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest at least one socket disposed in the support member and having a ball support surface, and a ball rotatably disposed on each ball support surface in the socket, each ball adapted to contact and support the glass substrate in a spaced-apart relation to the support member, as recited in claim 8, and claims dependent thereon. Additionally, *Okayama* and *Young*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a ball rotatably disposed on the ball support surface in the socket, wherein the ball has a surface roughness of 4 micro-inches or smoother, the ball adapted to contact and support a substrate thereon, as recited in claim 47, and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Okayama* in view of *Young*, or vice-versa, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,621,936 (*Hansson*). Claim 14 depends on claim 8, which is drawn to allowable subject matter as described above. *Okayama*, *Young*, and *Hansson*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the ball has a surface roughness of 4 micro-inches or smoother, as recited in claim 14. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 20, 21, 49, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Okayama* in view of *Young*, or vice-versa, as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,801,144 (*DeMasi, Jr., et al.*). *Young*, *Okayama*, and *DeMasi*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a spacer having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion adapted to interface with the support member, a socket disposed in the second portion and having a ball

support surface, a plurality of ball support balls disposed on the ball support surface, and a ball rotatably disposed on the plurality of ball support balls in the socket, the ball adapted to contact and support the substrate thereon, as recited in claim 1, and claims dependent thereon. Also, *Young*, *Okayama*, and *DeMasi* alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the balls are coated or plated as recited in claim 20, and claims dependent thereon. Finally, *Young*, *Okayama*, and *DeMasi* alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the ball is at least one of coated or plated as recited in claim 49, and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Okayama* and *Young* in view of *DeMasi*, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of *Hansson*. Claim 2 depends on claim 1, which is drawn to allowable subject matter as described above. *Okayama*, *Young*, *DeMasi*, and *Hansson*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the ball of claim 1 has a surface roughness of 4 micro-inches or smoother, as recited in claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

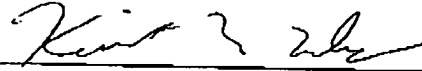
Claims 48 and 52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Okayama* in view of *Young*, or vice-versa, as applied to claim 8 and 47 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,706,793 (*Masciarelli*). Claim 52 depends on claim 8 which is drawn to allowable subject matter as described above. Claim 48 depends on claim 47 which is drawn to allowable subject matter as described above. *Okayama*, *Young*, and *Masciarelli* alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the balls of claim 8 and 47 are electropolished, as recited in claim 48 and 52, and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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